

A NEW SAURAUIA FROM MEXICO

BY

RICHARD EVANS SCHULTES

Saurauia Comitis-Rossei *R. E. Schultes sp. nov.*

Arbor robusta ut videtur. Rami scabrido-hirsuti sed denique subglabrescentes, fulvo cum cortice. Foliorum lamina petiolata, valde coriacea, obovata, apice acuta, basi rotundata, minutissime serrulata, supra atroviridis et muriculata et sparsissime setoso-pilosa, infra velutina et densissime pilosa albo-canis cum pilis atque cum pilorum floccis in nervorum axillis, nervis plusminusve tres et viginti parallelis, 15–18 cm. longa, 5.5–6 cm. lata. Inflorescentia comparate pauciflora, foliis brevior, cum pedunculo 10–15 cm. longa; pedunculus dense adpresso-hirsutus vel setoso-pilosus; pedicelli robusti, hirsuto-pilosiusculi, 4 mm. longi; bracteae conspicuae, lineares, setoso-pilosae, usque ad 1 cm. longae. Flores 1.8 cm. in diametro, albi. Sepala quinque, in maturitate sicca atque persistentia, obovata vel subrotundata, 6 mm. longa, 4 mm. lata, extus scabridule et minute setoso-pilosiuscula, margine minutissime ciliata. Petala quinque, fere usque ad basim libera, glabra, membranacea, late et subquadrangulateque rotundato-ovata, 8 mm. longa, 5 mm. lata. Stamina plusminusve viginti, corollae basi adhaerentia, basi setoso-barbata. Staminum filamenta 3–4 mm. longa; antherae versatiles. Ovarium globosum, quinque-partitum, glabrum, quinque cum stylis carnosus minutisque.

Fructus niger, 3 mm. longus, baccatus, quinque-carpel-latus.

Saurauia Comitis-Rossei appears to have no close allies among the known species of Mexico and adjacent parts of Middle America. It is easily distinguished by its extremely thick and coriaceous leaves, as well as by a number of less conspicuous vegetative and floral characters.

The common name of *Saurauia Comitis-Rossei* is reported by Reko to be "mameyito." In southern Mexico, this name refers to a number of species of *Saurauia* and other genera with small, edible fruits.

At the request of the collector, I have named *Saurauia Comitis-Rossei* in honor of the Earl of Rosse in recognition of his active and enthusiastic interest in Mexican horticulture.

MEXICO: Estado de Oaxaca, Distrito de Juquila, Pochutla, Cafetal de San Antonio, 1700 meters altitude, February 1941, *B. P. Reko* 6183 (TYPE in Herb. Gray).

EXPLANATION OF THE ILLUSTRATION

PLATE XIX. SAURAUIA COMITIS-ROSSEI *R. E. Schultes*.
1, plant, one half natural size. 2, flower, twice natural size. 3, petal, three times natural size. 4, sepal, three times natural size. 5, sepal, inside view, three times natural size. 6, sepal, outside view, three times natural size.

Drawn by GORDON W. DILLON